



Between Spaces: Museums & Mental Wellbeing in Young People

Inpatient hospital setting

Museum Space

Adolescent Lives: Challenges and Opportunities Workshop

11^h October 2018

Dr Humera Iqbal, Dr Katie Quy, Professor Paula Reavey & Dean Veall



Child mental health referrals up 26% in five years, says report

By Oliver Newlan BBC 5 live Investigates

① 7 October 2018









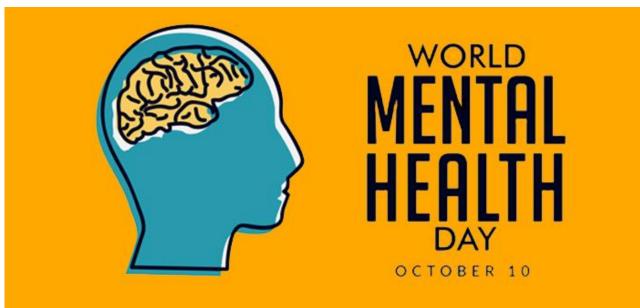


BBC O

NEWS



World Mental Health Day: PM appoints suicide prevention minister



The number of referrals to child and adolescent mental health services in England has increased by 26% over the past five years, Education Policy Institute (EPI) research suggests.

CAMHS



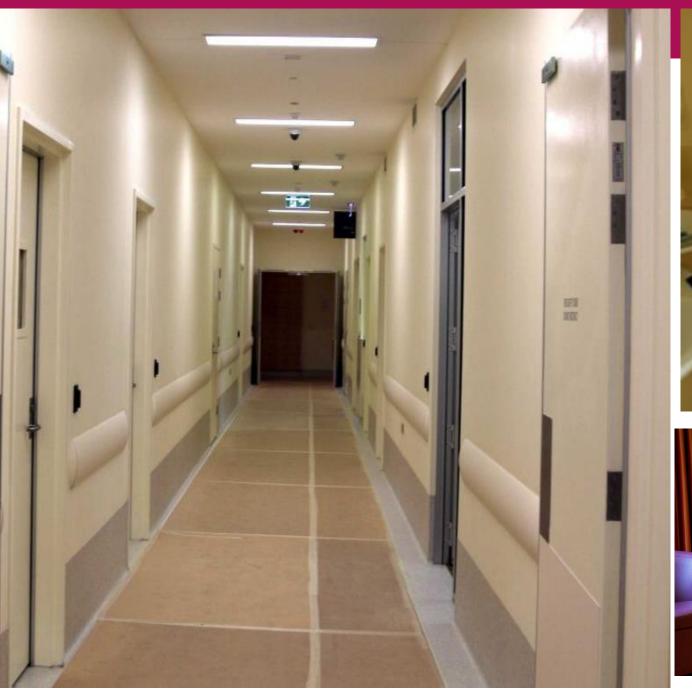
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

Tier 4 – inpatient provision

Tier 3 – specialised CAMHS, including eating disorder services

Tier 2 – early help and targeted services

Tier 1 – early intervention and prevention, provided by schools, children's centres, health visitors, school nurses, GPs, etc



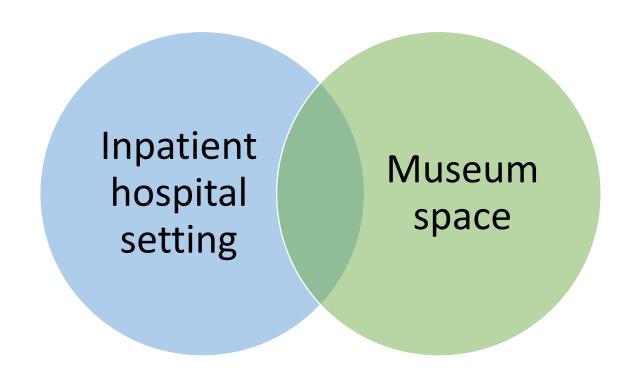






Between Spaces: Museums & Mental Wellbeing in Young People



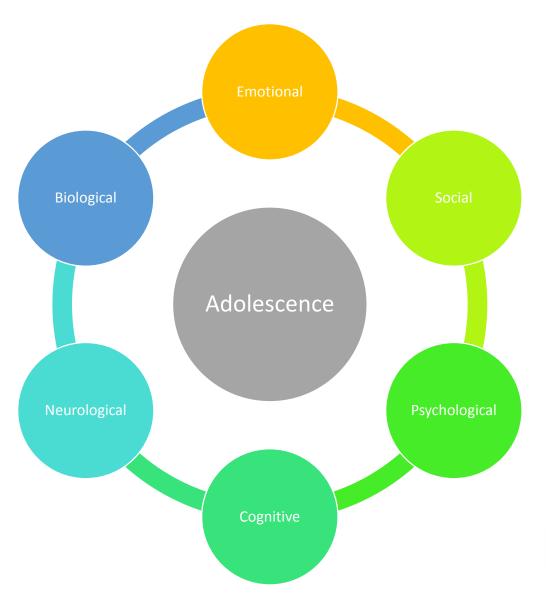


Broadly: How can we foster a sense of belonging in young people with mental health needs a) to wider society (connection to outside world) b) within the unit as a space of wellbeing?

Exploratory: Can museum based practices facilitate discussions with adolescents experiencing mental health difficulties with issues relating to identity, memory, belonging and wellbeing?

What do you mean by adolescence?





Identity formation

Transitions

Belonging

Mental Health

How would you explain your research project to a young person?



Can museum activities help create discussions with young people experiencing mental health difficulties around topics like identity, memory, belonging and wellbeing?

Inpatient hospital setting

Museum space

UCL Grant Museum of Zoology (68, 000 specimens)
Museum based practice (Dean Veall):

- 3 Workshops (2 in inpatient unit, 1 at the Museum
- Interviews with museum staff, theatre groups
- Detailed review of the research done before



The Workshops



 Young people as co-researchers: 'Cultural Engagement- what it means, how we can improve it'

Museum based practice used: object handling & art appreciation

Activities: Building a gorilla, The Collectors, Cabinet of Curiosities,
Museum Visit, The Dinosaur bone (70million year old)



Tackling boredom

Connection to outside world and wider society

handling 'precious' objects

Safe space for friend making, connection, talking

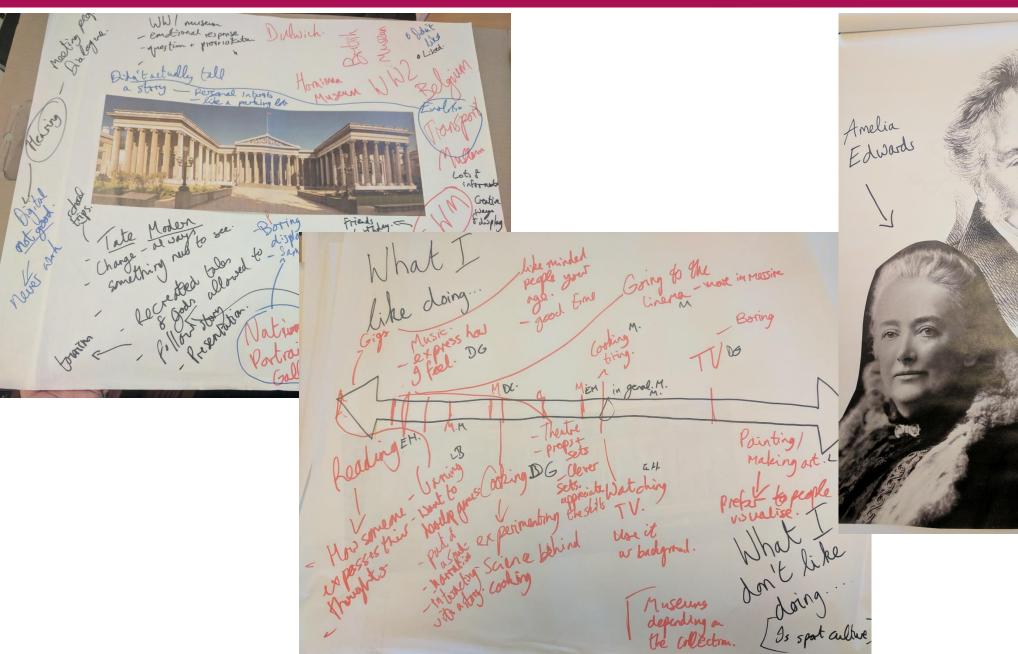
Museum based practice workshops

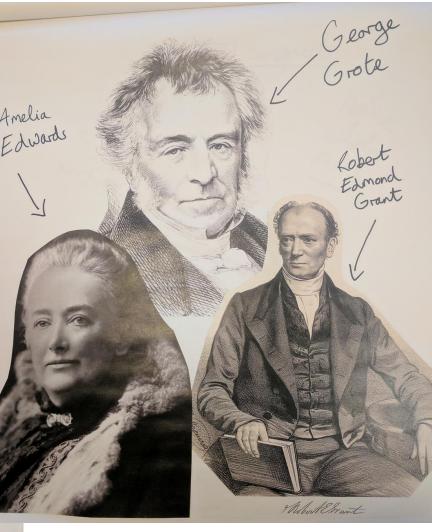
Discussions around objects and relating to self & place in society

Discussions being externalised (based on object, art)

Discussions on race and class, struggle, wellbeing

LUCI





What are the Policy implications of your research findings?



'Adolescent mental health crisis' Service cuts in CAHMS



Non- therapeutic Interventions can work- seen as 'safer' to attend; open space to talk, (Colbert et al. 2013)



Scaffolding positive identity formation, diminishing the stigmatising effects of inpatient admission (link to the outside), promoting accrual of cultural capital and wellbeing in young 'service users' across social class, encouraging friendship (Parnell & Rooney, forthcoming)



Museum Outreach- Support for cultural practitioners; wider outreach?; measurement